

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.		50X1
SUBJECT	Exploration Procedures of Wismut A.G. Topographic and Geophysics Sections	DATE DISTR.	6 September 1955	
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Wismut A.G. uranium field exploration teams were composed of personnel from the topographic section and the geophysics section. Topographic personnel usually reported to the selected area a few days prior to the arrival of personnel from the geophysics section and began to work in the area immediately upon arrival; the entire project was a combined effort of both sections. Topographic personnel went directly into the field and made their surveys and maps. Geophysics personnel explored the surveyed area with their instruments and advanced along the line of survey only after the topographic personnel had left the immediate area.
2. After a specific area had been selected for exploration, an advance man was sent into the area to arrange housing, office space, supply facilities, and transport accommodations for the entire project. When the field crews of both the topographic and the geophysics sections arrived, they were assigned quarters and mess facilities. After the topographic section was established in the town or village, surveys and mapping of the designated area began. The only requirement placed on the movement or operations of topographic section personnel was the procurement of specific pass authorizations from the East German Kreis officials and from the local Soviet Army headquarters when work required entrance into the "Five Kilometer Zone" or the "500 Meter Zone" both of which paralleled the East-West German border.

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3. When geophysics section personnel arrived in the selected area, they were followed at all times by a detachment of approximately 40 Soviet military personnel which usually consisted of two lieutenants, six noncommissioned officers, and some lower-ranking enlisted men. This Soviet detachment, which utilized the same civilian type of Wismut A.G. bus, truck, and vehicle transportation as that provided for the topographic and geophysics personnel, always accompanied the geophysics section in the field. One Soviet soldier always escorted each three-man geophysics brigade. Source believes that this Soviet soldier acted as escort primarily to prevent the loss of the valuable uranium-detecting instruments used by each brigade.

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